THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re Application of: Axel Frohwein |) | Examiner: | Michalsky, G. |
|---|---|-------------|---------------|
| |) | | |
| Serial No.: 10/651,077 |) | Art Unit: | 3753 |
| |) | | |
| Filed: August 27, 2003 |) | Our Custome | er ID: 22827 |
| |) | | |
| Confirmation No.: 7269 |) | Our Account | No. 04-1403 |
| |) | | |
| Title: "Weldring with Locking Arrangement for |) | | |
| Valve Assembly" |) | | |

RESPONSE TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop – Amendment Commissioner of Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 23, 2005, Applicant elects as required certain claims for initial examination. Additionally, prior to examination of the above-captioned application on the merits, please amend the claims as set forth below and kindly consider the remarks that follow.

| in re Application of: Axel Frohwein |) | Group Art Unit: 37: | 53 |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Serial No: 10/651,077 | PE | Examiner: Michalsk | y, G. |
| Filed: August 27, 2003 | (2005 ii) | Our Client ID: | 22827 |
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| Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Post Office Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 | | | |
| This is a response/amendment/letter in th subject which is incorporated hereinto by absence of a signature thereto. | reference and the signatu | tion and includes the herew re below is to be treated as t | ith attachment of same date and the signature to the attachment in |
| Fee requirements (if any) have be Claims | Highest | elow: | |
| | number | · | |
| | previously Present paid for Extra | | Additional |
| Total Effective Claims 77 minus | | X \$50 = | Fee \$00 |
| | , | | 3 |
| Independent Claims 8 minus If amendment enters <u>proper</u> multiple depe | 8 = 0 endent claim(s) into this ap | x \$200 = oplication for first time, add | \$00 |
| 5290.00 (per application) | | | \$ |
| Since Official Action set an <u>original</u> due de PETITION is hereby made for an extensi | ion to cover the data this | | |
| requisite fee is enclosed (1 month \$120; 2 | months \$450; 3 months \$ | esponse is filed for which th | e \$.00 |
| 3 months \$2,160) | | | 5 |
| If Terminal Disclaimer enclosed, add Rule | e 20(d) Official Fee (\$110. | .00) | \$ |
| | SI. | JBTOTAL: | • |
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| If "small entity" verified statement filed [|] previously, | | |
| [] herewith, enter one-half (½) of subtota | al and subtract | | \$ |
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| | • | TAL. | \$ |
| Other: | | | \$ |
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| The Commissioner is hereby authorized to the fee(s) filed or ascerted to be filed and | charge any fee manifically | ar and a fact that a | |
| me ree(3) med, or asserted to be med, or w | 'nich should have been file | ed herewith or concerning | |
| hereafter, and which may be required under and the resulting official document under R | r Kules 16-18 (<u>deficiency</u> | only) now or hereafter relati | ve to this application |
| mercor for winer purpose a <u>duplicate</u> copy | of this sheet is attached. T | his statement does not auth | orize charge of the |
| issue fee in this case. | | | oraze orange or the |
| ADDRESS: | OORITY & MANNING | | |
| Post Office Box 1449 | ATTORNEYS AT LAW, | P.A. | |
| Greenville, SC 29602 USA | | | |
| Telephone: 864-271-1592 | y:Bernard S. Klosowski, J | r. Reg. No: <u>47,710</u> Date: | 3-9-05 |
| 5 | ignature: | `) | |
| I hereby certify that this correspondence and Service as first class mail in an envelope add Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 2231 Heather C. Byars | 13-1450, on | nt and fee are being deposite r for Patents, U.S. Patent and | ed with the United States Postal d Trademark Office, |
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